

profession, and urged the members of the society to throw aside all petty feelings, and for the men to unite for the good of the profession and the county.

At this meeting Dr. H. J. B. Wright presented the history and pathological specimens of a case of gastric ulcer that had perforated into the large bowel and had there formed a permanent opening, the patient having lived for nearly three years with the entire small intestine shortcircuited.

CHARLES M. RICHARDS,  
Santa Clara County Editor.

### TULARE COUNTY.

The first regular meeting of the Tulare County Medical Society, since its organization, was held at rooms of the Tulare Club in Tulare, February 15th, and there was a good attendance of physicians from all parts of the county.

Dr. Blodgett, president of the Society, opened the meeting with a paper on "Operative Treatment of Fracture." The discussion which followed was led by Dr. Rosson, but all the physicians present took a great deal of interest in the subject. The best methods of wiring fractures was the chief topic on this subject.

Dr. Barber of Porterville was slated for a paper on "Fracture of Elbow Joints," but on account of the muddy roads he was unable to be present and his paper was not read.

Then followed another paper by Dr. Beck of this city on "Vaccines and Serum Therapy." The discussion on this subject was led by Dr. White of Visalia.

Altogether the meeting was a success and those who were present derived a great benefit by an interchange of ideas. After the business meeting adjourned, the doctors gathered at the Sweetland and enjoyed a well served supper.

### BOOK REVIEWS

**A Text-Book on Bacteriology.** By Philip Hanson Hiss, Jr., M. D., Professor of Bacteriology, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York City, and Hans Zinsser, M. D., Associate Professor in Charge of Bacteriology, Leland Stanford Jr. University, Palo Alto, California; 745 pages. D. Appleton and Company, 1910.

This treatise, the most recent of American works on general bacteriology, designed particularly for the use of medical students and physicians, is divided into five sections.

Section I. Devoted to the **general biology of bacteria and the technic of bacteriological study** begins with a short historical sketch of the science. This is followed by chapters dealing with the general aspects of the subject. The chapter on the destruction of bacteria deals thoroughly with the theoretical as well as the practical aspects of disinfection. Under the head "Methods Used in the Microscopic Study and Staining of Bacteria" complete and full data is furnished. Here as elsewhere in the book, care has been taken to give formulae and processes clearly and fully.

Section II. Contains as complete a discussion of the subject of **infection and immunity** as could profitably be included in such a work. The influence of the cellular elements of the body in relation to immunity is dealt with as fully as that of the fluid constituents of the organism. Anaphylaxis is treated as extensively as our knowledge of the subject justifies.

Section III. Here the individual **pathogenic microorganisms** are taken up. The various organisms causing disease in man are discussed in their purely bacteriological bearings and in some instances special paragraphs are devoted to the hygienic aspects of an organism or a disease. In each group related non-pathogens and those pathogenic for animals only are treated. The discussion of the important colonic typhoid-dysentery group is particularly complete.

In the consideration of the tubercle bacillus the various "tuberculins" and other products that are now so largely used in the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis are briefly but clearly discussed together with the methods of employing the agents.

In the discussion of the plague bacillus one is disappointed to find no reference to the presence of plague among ground squirrels of the Pacific Coast. The role of fleas in transmitting the disease is almost wholly neglected.

In the discussion of the methods of isolating the cholera spirillum the importance of using a strongly alkaline medium is not brought out. No mention is made of "spirillum carriers," a subject perhaps relatively as important as that of typhoid bacillus carriers which is adequately treated.

**Diseases of unknown etiology**, Rabies, Smallpox, Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis, Yellow Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, and Foot-and-Mouth Diseases, are discussed in Section IV.

Section V deals with **Bacteria in Air, Soil, Water, and Milk**. The application of bacteriological processes to the sanitary problems in which air, soil, water and milk are concerned, is briefly described and discussed.

Upon the whole it may be said that the work is one that will prove of value to every medical student and to the majority of practitioners. A well-balanced conservative attitude toward the many unsettled problems in bacteriology is to be noted and commended. We are not acquainted with any book covering approximately the same ground better than this one does and while there are defects, many of which are such as are inherent to a first edition, the work is one that may safely be recommended for study and for reference.

G. M.

**The Cause and Cure of Colds.** By Wm. S. Sadler, M. D., Professor of Physiologic Therapeutics, The Post-Graduate Medical School of Chicago. Published by A. C. McClure & Co., Chicago, Ill.

This little volume, written for laymen, contains much of interest to the medical profession.

Dr. Sadler is qualified to popularize medicine, and has been delivering lectures to the public for a number of years.

The book emphasizes that colds are not necessarily due to low temperature, and contains, in a popular form, our present theory as to the cause of colds. It is a book that we may advise our patients to read.

W. S. F.

**The Health Index of Children.** By Ernest Bryant Hoag, M. A., M. D., Medical Director of Berkeley Schools. Whitaker & Ray Wiggin Co. 1910.

The keynote of his small manual is best summed up in Dr. Hoag's own words: "Ignorance of how to keep well is rather worse than any other sort of ignorance." He considers the physical wellbeing of the school child of first importance and has outlined a very practical system of medical supervision for schools whereby all the defective children can be reached and helped with a little intelligent cooperation on the part of the teachers and parents.

The chief object of this book is to train teachers and parents to observe the ordinary signs of physical defects such as mouth breathing, projecting teeth, bad breath, inattention and backwardness in studies. Inefficiency is often accounted for by defective hearing or vision which when overcome no longer handicaps a child in "life's race." After finding from 50 to 90 per cent. of the children in the grade schools suffering from defective teeth Dr. Hoag seconds Dr. Osler in saying that the intelligent consideration of dental hygiene is of greater importance to a nation than the consumption of alcohol.

All these most important facts are written in a simple, interesting, untechnical manner, and cannot fail to bring results when read by anyone interested in raising the health standards of our schools.

E. H. W.